

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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1. As of early September 1953, new liberal rules about absence from the unit area have been introduced in the Soviet Army in Eastern Germany. Whereas previously an officer had to request permission from the regimental commander to leave the unit area, he can now leave any time during his free hours by merely informing the duty officer, but must return by 2400 hours. Soldiers get passes by turn, and are supposed to leave in small groups, accompanied by a corporal or sergeant. They are required to return to the unit area by supper time.
2. Soviet women servants are again to be replaced by Germans, because Soviet officers have been complaining of the former's sloppy work habits, thefts, etc.
3. Starting in October 1953, Soviet officers pay in East DM will be lowered because of the end of reparations. For example, a captain now receives 1,110 marks per month, but under the new pay scale he will receive 200 to 250 monthly. Lieutenants will probably not receive over 100 marks under the new pay system.

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